

App. F. IX-4

Reserve

1936-37

-3

File No. 139/36

Serial Nos. 12.6

Previous References

Pr 106-30-1-4

P.P. 67-36-1

Letter References,

~~PP 130-36-1~~

PP 134-36

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

Serial Nos 12.6

Part B for March 1937

SUBJECT

Proceedings of the Reserve

Federation at Kolar

I understand that violent, inflammatory speeches were made & several speeches at the meeting of the so-called Peoples Federation held at Kolar recently.

2) Please ask Mr. J. M. if he is aware that such speeches were delivered, & if he has so far made no report about them to Govt.

C. Secy.

MS
26-1-37

Protn. Por

Protn. Por
Protn. Por
MS
26/1
26/1

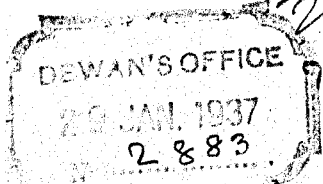
immediate

3) Draft & Co.

2
26/1

Chief Secy)

4) MS
26-1



5) Since tattering up the rope a response has been received from the Magistrate Kolar at 6-15 p.m. on the 26th inst. That response submitted with the file. It is then ordered whether the next Magistrate can be requested to ^{State} ~~reference~~ the cause of delay in sending his reports.

Chief Secy

Not necessary now

Dewan

MS
29-1-37

MS
28/1
28/1

Proceedings of the Peoples Federation at Kolar

General and Revenue
Secretariat

File No.

of 193

[App. F. III-2]

Serial
No.

8) Draft to Deputy Commr. Kolar sent up
as directed

C.P.A.
30/1/37

9) Enquiry is being made as per
instructions of the Director for all

MS
251.

(1st member)

10) J.P.D.

1/2
MS
1/2

DO NO 1881 of 1-7-37

dir

To The Dy. Commr Kolar Dist

1447
C.B.

Letter no J.C 32 dated 9-2-37
from the D.C Kolar

Furnishes detailed particulars of the arrangements
made by him for getting a report of the progress
of the Mysore Peoples' Federation and explains
how there is not much variation in the summary
of the progress as reported by the police etc.

11) Subd in the notes

1/2
10/2/37

File No

of 193

General and Revenue
Secretariat

Serial
No.

12) With reference to the enquiry whether the official report of the Proceedings of the Peoples Federation at Kolar is a correct version of the discussions (as the newspaper accounts give ~~no~~ a somewhat different version) the Dy. Comr. Kolar says that

(i) Having no staff of good steno-graphers who ^{prob.} could give a full report, a graduate Sub Inspector was deputed to attend the Conference (along with the Inspector)

(ii) That the further details & variations in the accounts published in the ^{vernacular} newspapers are not reliable

13) The Dy. Comr. suggests that the reporting agency ~~in the District~~ may be improved by either

(i) attaching a good Steno-typist to each D. Police office

(ii) attaching good Steno-typists to the office of the D. G. of Police whose services could be requisitioned for service in the Districts when necessary.

(iv) It is submitted that there appears to be even now provision in the Central C. I. D. office for ~~some~~ ~~trained~~ short-hand reporters for reporting proceedings of important political meetings [If a requisition had been sent to the D. G. of Police for sparing ~~any~~ ^{perhaps} reporters for this all-State Conference, ~~perhaps~~ ^{perhaps} some arrangements might have been ^{possible} ~~made~~ ~~It is for~~ ~~the~~ ~~report~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~conference~~]

(15) For order whether the report of the Dy. Comr Kolar may be referred to the D. G. of Police for remarks and consideration of the suggestions for improving the reporting arrangements.

11/2/37

be sent to G. G. P. He may be
sustained from the latter whether

the Steuergeldes Sanchez in the S.

13 - 2-1981 are missing in the C-T W and

whether their services can be secured by

δ - δ p or δ c whenever necessary

Chief Seez

$$\frac{107}{112}$$

187.
Members
+
Jewar

(18) I agree, what 11.2.37
the Central CID don't
ch matter

7/102

12/2

Submitted

19) Draft- letter to D. G. of Police put up

K. mR
13/2/37

Chief Legg

20)

appel

157

CHIEF SECRETARY,
15 FEB. 1922
GOVT. OF MYSORE.

Huder Co.

Peoples Federation at Kolan

File No

193

General and Revenue
Secretariat

Serial
No.

S.O. No 1040 dt 15.2.34

The P. G. of Police

Engines now in service
of the C.S.D are employed
& when any special arrangement
for better reliable reports in
the machine exist

Serial
No.

Letter no. SN 190/34-35 dated 22nd Feb. 1937
from the Inspector-General of Police, reporting as to
how the Steno-typists of C.I.D. are employed.

Submitted with reference to Joint Member's minute
in para 18 of the notes above.

Among other things the Inspector-General
of Police was asked to state whether the Central
C.I.D. office ~~do~~ not make any special arrange-
ments for getting reliable ~~information~~ reports
of important meetings in the Mofussil.
The Inspector-General of Police does not clearly explain
this point.

Submitted for orders

L.M.R.
27/2/37)

The report of the I.G. of Police
indicates that there ~~are~~ is already some
special staff available for reporting important
meetings etc, and these could have been
made available if asked for. Reference is
made to Rule 25 of the Special Branch
Manual ~~which states~~ under which
District Police officers are required to
request the services of shorthand
reporters attached to the Special Branch
on occasions when political or other meetings
are to be held at which political suspects
are to speak

Peoples Federation at Kolar

File No.

of 193

General and Revenue
Secretariat

Serial
No.

~~the~~ In respect of the Conference
at Kolar, ~~it was open~~ if it was felt
that there was no competent reporting
staff available ^{locally} ~~to~~ a requisition
for the C. I. D. Reporting staff ~~might~~ might
~~to~~ have been sent.

Submitted

1/3/37

A copy of the I. G. P's letter
will be sent to the D. C. K. A.
for information

(8/11/37)

MS
1/11

1/102
2/3

MS
2/3

5/2/36
2.3.

For perusal

MS
3/3

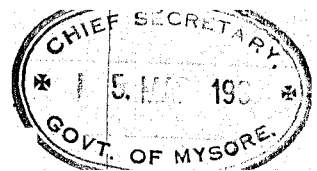
(1/11/37)

YND
3-3-37 MS
4/3

Draft letter put up

nr
3/37

attch
MS
5/3



Serial
No.

D.O. N^o. 2251/CB dated 8th March 1937 to the
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, Kolar. Forwarded for his
information a copy of letter N^o S.B. 190/324.35 dated 26th Jan^y 1937
received from the District General of Police in stating that there is
already provision for stenographers being made available from the Central
C. I. D. Office for rotations in different districts etc. in the District

File No

of 193

General and Revenue
Secretariat

Serial
No.

Confidential.

C B 129.26.1

D. O. No. C. C. 32-J. 1/36-37.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT,

acs. ~~20.7.22~~

Dated Kolar, the.....26th January.....1937.

red 700
6.16.97 C. B.
11/5
26/1

Dear Sir,

I enclose herein, for the information of Government, a summary of the proceedings of the Second Mysore State Peoples' Federation held at Kolar on the 23rd and 24th instant, together with copies of the addresses read by the Chairman of the Reception Committee and the President of the Conference. It will be seen from the summary of the proceedings that portions of speeches of some of the speakers are highly objectionable in tone.

Yours sincerely,

Imarayud

To

B. T. KESAVAIENGAR, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
B a n g a l o r e.

Report of the First day's proceedings of the Second Mysore State Peoples' Federation, held in the Jubilee Hall, Kolar, on 23rd January 1937.

The delegates that had come from the different parts of the State, mostly from the District Head Quarters, numbered about 50. About 150 members of the Kolar District, - attended the Federation.

The President arrived by train at 10 A.M. from ----- Bangalore and was taken to Musafirkhana by the member of the Reception Committee. The delegates also halted in the musafirkhana and other places reserved for them. The prominent delegates were Messrs: V. Venkatappa, President-elect, H. V. Gundappa Gowda, D. S. Mallappa, H.C.Dasappa, Subramiah Setty, Balakrishniah, H. Siddiah, Hanumanthappa, Mariappa, Vema Reddi Guruvareddi, Changalaraya Reddi, Bagamane Dyave Gowda, ---- Venkatasami Setti, K. P. Raman, Govindarajulu, Rudrappa, S. Srikantiah and Govinda Rao.

After lunch and the registration of the delegates the subject committee, met in the Musafirkhana between 1 and 3 P.M. At 5 P.M. the President-elect was taken in procession in a car with music from Musafirkhana to the Jubilee Hall (the place of meeting) via. Doddaneta Bus Stand. The procession had been licensed by the local Magistrate. On arrival at the Jubilee Hall, the President-elect was garlanded with shouts of Jai to President and Mr. Changalaraya Reddi.

At 4.20 P.M. the proceedings began with an invocation, sung by three young girls and with Mr. V. Venkatappa in the Chair. Mr. K. Changalaraya Reddi then delivered a welcome address in Kannada followed by a short speech. The printed copy of his speech is herein enclosed for kind perusal

The President-elect then addressed the audience in Kanarese. His speech, printed in both in English and Kannada is herein enclosed for kind perusal.

Mr. K. P. Raman read some of the letters from gentlemen who could not attend the Federation meeting on account of personal inconveniences.

Proceedings were conducted only in Kanarese and summary of the same is noted below:-

Mr. P. Subrama Chetty moved the first resolution requesting the people to give full consent and privilege to Harijans for temple entry in the State and added that following the example of the Government of Travancore, the Government of Mysore should be approached to issue a similar order in the State which is known World-wide as "Model State"

Mr. D. S. Mallappa supporting the resolution stated that by such a step being taken there will be unity between the caste Hindus and the Harijans and added that as a first step in this direction the Harijans in the villages should be given full privileges regarding the use of drinking water. The resolution was passed unanimously.

Mr. H. C. Dasappa next spoke and advocated the cause of the ryots in the State. He dealt at the subjects at great length, quoting instances in which the Government failed to concert measures to alleviate the sufferings of the poor ryots in the villages, who, he said, get at present, hardly one meal a day.

He characterised the Government as autocratic and told the audience that now was the best opportunity for them to agitate for a democratic Government. He pleaded for the reforms and the changes in the constitution of the present Government to make it a responsible ~~Government~~ one. The principle and policy of Government, he said, from 1923 are varied and they were not useful to the people and the State. We, he added, the representatives of the people, cannot do anything unless we get a responsible Government. He wanted

a non-official elected member for the Executive Council. He remarked, that the improvements were all confined to the cities like Bangalore and Mysore and a town like Seringapatam and no ~~attempt~~ attention was paid by the Government for the improvement of villages. The land assessment was generally heavy in the State and particularly it was so in Kolar District in his opinion. His grievance was that education cess was collected from villages but no school was given to each village. Comparing the income and expenditure of Japan with those of Mysore and the salary of the Administrative head in the two places and the Chief Justice, he said, the salary was too high in Mysore. He opined that all industrial concerns in Mysore were failure and there should be no taxation without representation and this must be the spirit and object of the responsible Government. He appealed to the audience to cry for a responsible Government jointly and approach His Highness to achieve this object.

Mr. H. V. Gundappa Gowda of Hassan supported Mr. H. C. Dasappa and added that the title of the Model State given to Mysore is inapplicable to Mysore State because in his opinion the representation of the representatives of the people in the Representative Assembly and Legislative Council are not needed by the Government and at present the so called representatives of the people appear to go to the assembly and the Councils as beggars for charity and all this was due to the people not having a responsible Government. So he pleaded that the people must approach His Highness, to grant a responsible Government to them.

Mr. Balakrishnaiah of Bangalore supporting the resolution for the responsible Government pleaded for the reduction of the land revenue and the curtailment in the expenditure of the Government establishment.

The next speaker was Mr. H. Siddiah of Shimoga. His speech was characterised by ^{vehemence} ~~vehemence~~ and sometimes severe expression of opinions. Some of his utterances are written within inverted commas

"I support Messrs: H.C.Dasappa and Balakrishniah in the matter of responsible Government. What is our Government, it is all powerful. It must undergo reorganisation. What are we doing. We are paying and suffering. All our money is spent for the luxuries of Government officials in the State. My heart, my body and my mind begin to burn when I look into the Civil list of officers in the State. When the whole amount collected from you is spent away on officials you cannot get anything for your benefits. You are not given - the good education, I mean the mass education. The percentage of the education in the rural areas is nil. You are ignored by Government. It is a disgrace to hear that the Government are not spending for your education, for your good or for the advancement of your culture".

The Chairman Mr. Venkatappa in his concluding speech summarised the speeches made by the previous speakers urged for the reduction of the land assessment, joint representations for a responsible Government and to change the present principle and policy of Government so that the wants and requirements of the people may be sanctioned by the Government and requested the people to forget differences amongst themselves and work jointly for the common good of the State

At about 8 P.M. the first days open session of the proceedings terminated. There was again a subject Committee meeting at 9 P.M. in Musafirkhana.

24-1-1937.

Sd. G. N. Lingappa,
Pro: Sub Inspector of Police.

"Copy"

Amara S.

Report of the Second day's proceedings of the Mysore State Peoples' Federation held at Kolar (Jubilee Hall) from 8.30 A.M. to 2 P.M. on 24th January 1937.

Mr. Hanumanthappa, Advocate of Bangalore, moved the following subjects for discussion and resolution:-

1. Freedom of press to publish the truth and justice.
2. Grant of Responsible Government,
3. Free ~~of~~ grant of permission to hold political meetings to exchange views of people.

Mr. Mariappa pointed out the provisions of Police Regulations to prohibit the expressions of political thoughts in the State and supported the subject of obtaining a responsible Government to ameliorate the sufferings of the poor ryots in the villages.

The President granted time for discussion of these subjects by the members

Mr. K. Changalaraya Reddi spoke of the introduction of the federal Government and explained when the British Indian subjects send in their representatives to the federal Government the subject of Mysore have no such right of electing their own chosen representatives and they have to depend upon the Government of Mysore for the nomination of the members for the federal Government. He also pleaded for the total abolition of the subsidy which was a heavy drain on the poor purse of the Mysore State.

Mr. Govinda Rao pointed out that the British Government had shown considerable concessions to the Hyderabad State with regard to Berar but it is time that similar concessions should be shown to the Mysore State as well. All the three resolutions brought by Mr. Hanumanthappa were carried.

Mr. D. S. Mallappa spoke on the evils of drink and told the audience that the bills brought by the elected --- members of Council were not passed as the nominated members formed the majority.

Mr. Balakrishniah, Advocate, Bangalore, brought the following resolutions.

1. To work in co-operation with the National congress to remove the untouchability and prohibition of - drink. This was passed unanimously.

2. Mr. Bagamane Dyave Gowda of Chikmagalur spoke about the rural reconstruction and complained that the Government were not following the principles of rural reconstruction and brought a resolution that the Government should take up the work of -- rural reconstruction instead of throwing the burden of improving the villages upon the peoples themselves.

Mr. Mariappa supporting the resolution said that though there was a sum of 35 lakhs of rupees of the villages Panchayet Funds in the Government Savings Bank, it did not yield any interest but the people were compelled to do free labour for the improvement of the villages. This resolution was passed.

Mr. Gundappa Gowda opined that the advancement of the people was the development of good Government and a good Government was the Government for the benefit of people in the State and it is only then that free sanction of money for the benefit of people would be possible.

Mr. K. P. Raman, advocated for the reduction of land revenue assessment.

Mr. Venkatappa, President, then told the audience that Mr. H. Siddiah of Shimoga will move a resolution regarding the tenure of appointment of Dewan limiting it to a period of five years.

Mr. H. Siddiah opened the discussion by saying that that the Government limited the tenure of office of the District - Board President for a period of three years and not more. If that was correct, it stands to reason that the tenure of appointment of any Dewan should be limited to a maximum period of five years. His reasoning for fixing the tenure was that the

change of incumbent every five years, the ideas will be changing and the policies also might be changing to suit the requirements of the people. In support of his arguments he said that when the Governors, Residents and the Viceroys are changed every five years there is no reason why a Dewan should not be so changed every five years.

1

Mr. Mariappa supporting the resolution stated that if one officer should continue for more than five years in one office he will develop an autocratic attitude and spirit in his office so it would be better to change the incumbent every five years.

15

So His Highness should be approached to remove officers aged over 55 years.

Mr. H. C. Dasappa, read the following passage in English and explained its meaning in Kanarese." The Dewans reactionary attitude with regard to constitutional reforms is not satisfactory. Our State must be reformed. Such reformation must be based upon the sound principles of great constitutional reformers of different countries".

Mr. S. Srikantiah Advocate, Bangalore, supported Mr. Dasappa and opined that if any Dewan is to be respected by people he must not remain in power for over five years and must retire.

he

Mr. Gundappa Gowda, following Mr. Srikantiah said that the administrators must remember the open promise made by them since 1923 for the benefit of people towards the establishment of a responsible Government and if such a promise is not kept up the people would lose the faith and confidence in such officers.

The above resolution was passed.

In his concluding speech, the President Mr. V. Venkatappa exhorted the people to sink their differences and join together to represent their grievances to

Government and not stop until they are redressed. Left to themselves he added that the Government will not grant the want of the people because it would be profitable to them to deny the wants of the people. He wished for the success of the Federation and its work to request the Government effectively to hear the voice of the people.

The open Session closed at 2 P.M. and the representatives left the place by the evening.

Sd. G. N. Lingappa,
Pro: Sub Inspector of Police,
Kolar.

Submitted:-

I was present both days, but on the 2nd day I attended the meeting from 8.30 to 10.30 A.M. but I left the place to visit the scene of occurrence in a case of Motor accident that took place near Narasapur on the Bangalore-Kolar road. The report contains a ~~xxx~~ true and correct version of the proceedings.

Sd. S. Srinivasappa Gopal,
Police Inspector, Kolar.

25th Jan.1937.

"Copy"

Jmms

SECOND CONFERENCE
OF THE
Mysore Peoples Federation
K O L A R

23rd JANUARY 1937

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

BY
Mr. V. VENKATAPPA, M.L.C.



Bangalore
Printed at the Modi Power Printing Works
Sri Narasimharaja Road

1937

THE SECOND CONFERENCE
OF THE
Mysore Peoples Federation
K O L A R

CHAIRMAN OF THE RECEPTION COMMITTEE, BROTHER
DELEGATES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

Flattering though it is, the task that has been entrusted to me of occupying the Presidential Chair of this august assembly and guiding its deliberations is indeed a very onerous one. But in spite of the difficulty of the task and the natural hesitation on my part to accept it, I could not but obey the almost urgent call of my valued friend, Mr. Chengalaraya Reddi, one of the prominent leaders of the Federation and a shining light in the public activities of our State. In fact, when a few days ago, I received his kind letter, I was offered no choice. I had simply to obey and don the mantle of presidentship, for which I feel I am least fitted. This is how I am now before you and I have to crave your patience and forbearance with any short-comings you may find in me.

His Highness' Return

Before touching on the many problems confronting us to-day, I wish to express our sense of joy and pleasure for the safe return of our Gracious Sovereign from his European tour. Though His Highness' stay in foreign countries was short, the time he spent there has been fully utilised and he has come back into the

midst of his loyal subjects fully recuperated in health I humbly pray that the Almighty God will bestow on His Highness many many years of beneficent rule.

War Menace

We are all aware of the momentous changes that are taking place around us in regard to various aspects of life. In the first place, the whole world is threatened with the out-break of a war whose scope for mischief and destruction seems to be far greater than that of the previous one. The League of Nations, which was the result of a post-war anxiety for peace among European and American Statesmen and which was advertised to replace the pen in the place of the gun for the settlement of international disputes, has totally failed to achieve the objects for which it was inaugurated. It has proved to be a mere debating society rather than a harbinger of peace. The Abyssinian conquest by Italy has clearly shown the utter futility of weaker nations depending on the efficacy of the League constitution to prevent spoliation by powerful neighbours suffering from land-hunger. After Abyssinia, Spain has become the play-ground for the warring tribes of Europe and from here the storm is very likely to spread over the entire Continent, unless a miracle happens to avert disaster. I am sure I am echoing your own sentiments, when I hope that such a dangerous experience will be avoided to the world by the dawn of good sense among the nations of the world.

The New Reforms

Nearer home, in British India, our brethren are on the threshold of another important change. They are busy bidding good-bye to a constitution, whose counterpart was nowhere to be seen and at no time in the world's history of constitutional developments. The Montagu-Chelmsford Scheme of governance,

though it is hallowed by the memory of a large-hearted Secretary of State for India, had abundant capacity for inefficient administration, rather than satisfactory potentiality for making the constitution responsive to public opinion and sentiment. It is strange that such a shapeless product of constitutional experiment should have survived to this day. But enough of that memory—it is passing like a bad dream. The new Reforms, which give greatly enlarged powers to the provincial legislatures and which do away with the system of water-tight compartments which divided the responsibility of the executive, will shortly be in working order in the different provinces of India. Election campaigns are in full swing and even the great National organisation, the Indian National Congress, is engaged in capturing the seats in local legislatures and keeping out reactionary elements therefrom. It is yet too early to say what the outcome of the electoral struggle will be but we can safely predict that it will ultimately end in the triumph of nationalistic forces

Federation

The next stage of the Reforms has to be seen in Delhi, the seat of the Central Government. It is in the fulfilment or otherwise of this stage that we of the Indian States are personally concerned. The question of Indian States federating with the British provinces and lending support for the accomplishment of the Federal Government, is engaging the minds of leading statesmen, administrators and publicists, both in India and England. The Indian States are occupying a key-position for the fructification of the scheme. Almost all the leading States are agreed on joining the Federation. In our own State also, the desire to join the Federation is almost unanimous. But there are certain factors which must be considered in this connection. The federal legislature is to be composed of elected representatives of British Indian provinces

and nominees of Federating Indian States. It is here that the rub comes. It would have been more just and equitable if, along with the nominees of different States' Governments, the subjects of those States also had been given the privilege of sending their elected representatives to the federal legislatures. As it is, while one part of the Central Legislature will be a representative body, commanding the trust and confidence of the electorate, the other part of it will be composed of persons only representing the interests of the princes and rulers of the Indian States, the subjects of which have no direct voice to express their grievances. If at least representative Governments were a feature of the administration in the States, then perhaps no valid objection could be made for nominees of such States taking their place in the federal assembly. The new arrangement lends only to bolster up autocracy and it is our bounden duty to prevent such contingency by agitating vigorously for recognition of our claim for effective representation in the federal legislatures.

Question of Subsidy

Our own State has certain circumstances to consider before joining the Federation as an equal member. The question of subsidy and the retrocession of Bangalore Cantonment are two matters which remind us of a defective status. In the new order of things, it would be out of place to expect Mysore to go on paying a heavy sum to the British Government without any reason and allow a good bit of her territory to be governed by another agency. If these matters are satisfactorily adjusted, then Mysore can join the Federation with a clean conscience and free mind.

Our Attitude towards Congress

In this connection, I would like to discuss our attitude towards the Indian National Congress.

The aim of our Federation is To obtain Responsible Government under the aegis of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore as early as possible by all peaceful, legitimate and constitutional means", and towards attaining this end we want to enlist the co-operation of all progressive elements in the State. It is not our intention to steer a separatist course, but to promote good-will and unity among the different communities in the State, securing equal opportunities for all. The attitude of the Congress towards the problems of the Indian States has hitherto been vague, halting and undefined and has been at best one of casual sympathy; it has essentially been one of aloofness. In such a circumstance, we are asked to define our attitude towards the Congress and it is highly necessary to do so now, as the Congress committees in our State want to fight the ensuing elections to the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council by putting in their own nominees on the electoral field. We of the Federation have no quarrel with such resolve on the part of the Congress committees. But for us to join the Congress officially and run candidates on congress tickets is premature, as Congress has not cared to define its exact attitude towards our problems. When the time comes we have no hesitation in joining hands with that august body. As it is, to run candidates on congress ticket, is meaningless, when the congress programme is not applicable to conditions prevailing in Indian States, except the programme relating to the removal of untouchability, promotion of swadeshi, reconstruction of rural areas, etc. All these latter objectives and more are before us, and it would therefore be in the fitness of things if the local Congress committees refrain from contesting the elections and introducing unnecessary complications.

The Travancore Proclamation

One outstanding event in recent happenings is the Travancore Proclamation. No gesture on the

part of our Rulers has been so striking as this proclamation of the young ruler of Travancore, by which he broke the fetters which cramped and curtailed the freedom and liberty of a section of the Hindu population. It is a charter of liberty for the Harijans and it catches one's fancy and imagination because of its suddenness and spontaneity. It is in the fitness of things that that great apostle of Harijan upliftment, Mahatma Gandhi, should have led a company of Harijans into the ancient temple Sri Padmanabha Swamy at Trivandrum and got '*prasadam*s' distributed to them. India owes a debt of gratitude to His Highness of Travancore for an act which once for all wiped the disgrace to the Hindu religion and showed to the world, like Mahatmaji, that Hinduism is a live religion and that it knows when to scrape off the age-old encrustations of forms and formalities, with a view to restoration of its pristine purity. This act of His Highness ought to show, if nothing else, that there is ample room in the Hindu fold for all who care to live in it, and there is absolutely no justification or warrant for some misguided Harijan leaders to advise their community to seek spiritual salvation through conversion to other religions. To Ambedkars and others of his way of perverted thinking, the proclamation ought to show the absurdity of joining other religions, actuated by resentment rather than conviction. Risking the charge of being too optimistic, I boldly predict that the day will not be far when untouchability in Hindu religion will be a thing of the past and that each and every community and branch of our ancient religion will be treated alike without the distinction of birth.

In this connection how I wish that the first step, in the upliftment of the Harijans, had been taken by our own Government, which is acknowledged by all to be actuated by progressive ideas! Better late than never. Even now there is opportunity for our

Government to do the right thing for the cause of the Harijans and wipe off the ancient blot of untouchability.

Agricultural Distress

Now coming to the problems that are facing us to-day in our own country, I have to mention the condition of our rural classes whose sufferings for a number of years past have remained without adequate alleviation. The continued trade depression and the failure of timely rains have reacted adversely against the agriculturists in the State, who are passing through an acute stage of distress. Representations frequently made to Government to take steps to ease their suffering have not met with proper response. No doubt, measures like the Agriculturists' Relief Regulation were put on the Statute Book with the hope that the tension would be eased. But the remedy has not proved to be very efficacious and therefore it is now sought to implement the Relief Regulation by a Debt Conciliation Regulation. Though these two regulations are desirable so far as they go, they are not sufficient by themselves. At best they are temporary palliatives rather than permanent cures. The root cause of agricultural distress lies, I think, in the land revenue policy and the defective system of assessment of lands. The Land Revenue Regulation which regulates or guides the revenue administration is mostly a copy of the Bombay Regulation. The conditions obtaining in Bombay Presidency could not possibly have been similar to those prevailing here; but somehow the Bombay policy came to be adopted. The entire system with its insistence on a high incidence of taxation and less attention to the promotion of the welfare of local agriculturists is out of place here and nothing short of a thorough revision of agricultural policy would improve matters. With a view to impress this aspect of affairs on the Government, our Federation tried in some places to organise Ryots' Conferences, but local revenue

officers made it impossible to do so, by serving prohibitory notices on the organisers of such conferences and meetings. Inapplicable sections of Police Regulation were freely utilised in that behalf and they thus successfully managed *to avert the disaster*, namely giving expression to legitimate grievances! There was no idea in the minds of the organisers to incite the ryots to any kind of illegitimate or unlawful activity or in the words of a prohibitory notice "to bring the administration into contempt". Far from it. The good name of our administration is dearer to us than anything else. It is with a view to enable the Government to feel for the sufferings of the rural population, do justice to them and thus maintain its good name that we wanted to hold such meetings and on most peaceful and constitutional lines. But even this satisfaction has been denied to us for reasons best known to the Government.

II Constitution

This leads me to the next question—what amount of freedom we have under the present constitution to give vent to our legitimate grievances. The Press Act of Mysore with its rigorous checks and restrictions has almost killed independent and fearless criticism, so that it is sometimes felt unsafe even to comment on the errors and eccentricities of local officials. Public meetings, even if they are held for peaceful expression of opinion on any measure of Government, are prohibited by over-zealous officials under colour of strange and irrelevant provisions of law. In the legislatures of the State, the elected element being in a minority, is always unable to register its will and influence the actions of the Government. The Representative Assembly, even after more than half a century of its existence, is not allowed to grow from its state of infancy. This body which is fully representative of the various interests of

he State, has still to be content with humble representations and ineffective discussions. And yet it is stated by persons who are interested in perpetuating the existing conditions, that our constitution is best suited for our country and that the "conscience of the State feels that it is democratic enough for all practical purposes". I, for myself, do not understand what that entity is which is called the conscience of the State and which has got such sublime trust in the potency of the present constitution. My conscience—and I am sure yours also—does not find much in it which is responsive to democracy. Whatever its excellence and whatever its capacity for good Government, the very fact that it is not representative is enough to condemn the constitution. Good Government is no substitute for self-Government—for a Government of the people, by the people, for the people. It is not mere good Government we are content with, but good Government of the people, by the people, for the people. In spite of the present tendency in some quarters to swear by Nazism and Fascism, such an objective as democratic Government is worth striving for. The long experience we have gained through that monumental institution of Dewan Rangacharlu of blessed memory, the Representative Assembly, ought to make us successful in our endeavours, provided we go step by step, carefully consolidating our gains and never coming in conflict with the powers that be.

Deprivation of Privileges

The first step in the above direction would be the strengthening of the District Boards, the Municipalities and the Village Panchayats, and agitating against the interference of the Government in the day-to-day administration of these bodies. It has become our painful experience of late to see Municipal Councils being superseded on not very convincing or valid grounds. We must try to see that no cause is

given for Government to take such drastic and extreme action against local bodies. It may be that it is their wish to afford, less opportunities for showing our fitness to manage our affairs but, it is up to us to resist such encroachments on our rights and privileges. The recent rules, by which the privileges of the Representative Assembly to send its representatives to the Legislative Council have been taken away and the powers of the members of the latter body to move resolutions and make interpellations have been considerably restricted are not cheering factors in our efforts for Responsible Government. We have, however, to take them as they come, trying to overcome their effect by honesty of purpose and unflagging zeal. The time is now fully ripe for the Government to change their views with regard to the capacity of the representatives of the people to run the day-to-day administration and grant political reforms without any further delay, so that we may also move side by side with advancing conditions in the rest of India.

Constructive Programme

I stated above, that, in the programme of work of the Indian National Congress, the items which you can carry out without embarrassing either the Congress or the Government are those which relate to the removal of untouchability, promotion of Swadeshi, and Rural Reconstruction. In furtherance of these items of the Congress programme we have to devote the best portion of our energy and not remain content with the mere passing of resolutions. The proof of our sincere anxiety can best be secured by doing incessant work in these directions, supported by a proper, disciplined organisation on the lines of the A. I. C. C., the Harijan Sevak Sangh and the Rural Reconstruction Scheme. A majority of us who are gathered here have our lives and associations in rural areas and it would not be difficult for every one of us to do such work as would be entrusted to us among the villagers. I therefore urge with all the emphasis at my command

that we devote some time in this Conference to devise ways and means of carrying out these objectives.

Our Activity

Another point which I am anxious to place before you is this. The activities of our Federation have till now been confined to a few days in the year, like those of the old Indian National Congress. Our aims and objects cannot be achieved by such desultory activity. Annual speeches, which would be forgotten the moment they are made, do not make for national reconstruction. Mere words have never been known to achieve results. They have to be supported by proper and timely activity. In order to do this consistently and well, there is again great need for organising our Federation in accordance with the Congress model. I hope by the time this session comes to a close, we will succeed in framing a suitable constitution, under which local committees of the Federation will be started and entrusted with the work of furthering the objects of the present body.

I thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for the patient hearing you have given me and before I close, let me remind you that we have gathered here, not as mere spectators of passing events, but as active participants in the drama of life. Let us, therefore, pool our resources in bringing about a better state of affairs by surviving for the promotion of the greatest good of the greatest number.

KOLAR,
23rd January, 1937.

V. VENKATAPPA.

THE
MODI POWER PRINTING WORK
SRI NARASIMHARAJA ROAD
ANGALORE CITY

139.36.2
M.1881/CB 81-237

Dear Mr. Appaji Gowda,

I am desired to acknowledge the receipt of your D.O. letter No. C.C.32/J.1. 36-37 dated 26th January 1937 enclosing a summary of the Proceedings of the Second Mysore State Peoples' Federation held at Kolar on the 23rd and 24th January 1937. Government, however, find that the accounts published in the newspapers ~~(Vernaculars as well as English)~~ regarding the discussions at the Conference vary in some respects from the summary sent by you and refer to matters that do not find a place in the ~~official~~ summary. I am desired to request you to kindly ~~verify the correctness of the~~ ^{report furnished} ~~report and state~~ what arrangements had been made for getting the report of the proceedings and the manner in which they were taken down by the ~~reporters~~ ^{persons deputied, and how far the summary furnished represents a fairly and correct} Yours sincerely,
version of the discussion at the Conference

MS
3/1

J. Appaji Gowda, Esq., B.A., (Hons)
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District

M. 1881/41 139.26.2

I am desirous to acknowledge the receipt of your D. O. letter No. C.C.32/J.I.36-37 dated 26th January 1937 enclosing a summary of the Proceedings of the Second Mysore State Peoples' Federation held at Kolar on the 23rd and 24th January 1937. Government, however, find that the accounts published in the newspapers regarding the discussions at the Conference vary in some respects from the summary sent by you and refer to matters that do not find a place in this summary. I am desirous to request you to kindly state what arrangements had been made for getting a report of the proceedings and the manner in which they were taken down by the persons deputed, and how far the summary furnished represents a fairly correct version of the discussions at the Conference.

Yours sincerely,

M/S
1/2

J. Appaji Gowda, Esqr., B.A. (Hons:)

Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

Confidential.

D. O. No...T.C.32/36-37.

Encs. Two.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT,

Dated Kolar, the....9th....February.....1937.

C.B.
1/11/37
1072

Dear Sir,

With reference to your Confidential D.O. letter No:1881/C.B. dated 1st February 1937, I write to state that the Inspector of Police, Kolar Taluk, had been deputed by the District Superintendent of Police, Kolar, to take down the notes of the proceedings of the - Mysore State Peoples' Federation Conference. From the report of the Police Inspector, (herein enclosed) it will be seen that he was present along with the Probationary Sub Inspector, who is a Graduate, on the first day of the Conference and on the second day till 10.30 A.M. He seems to have left the Conference hall on the second day at 10.30 A. M. as there was a fatal motor lorry accident on the Bangalore-Madras road, instructing the Probationary Sub Inspector to take down the -- notes till the close of the Session, which he expected to occur in a short time. But some subjects seem to have been sprung as a surprise at the last moment and the discussions continued till 2 P.M. There - are no Stenographers attached to the Police Department of this District and as such no other arrangement could be made. So far as the summary of the proceedings taken down by the Police Officers goes, there is - not much variation as compared with that published in the Hindu. The publication in the Kannada papers Viz: Visvakarnataka and Janavani is no doubt very elaborate, but as there is difference in the wording of the speeches of the several speakers as published in these two papers it cannot be said that they represent correctly the actual speeches - made by the several speakers. Some of the speeches are in high flown Kannada which is beyond the capacity of the speakers concerned. There is therefore reason to think that the speeches must have been edited and coloured by the reporters. Besides, the proceedings were all in Kannada and the rendering of the same into English depends on the -- capacity of each individual, his knowledge of English and Kannada and

capacity for translating into English, as speeches proceed. Comparing the newspaper reports with the summary given by the Police, it is seen that two or three subjects do not find mention in the latter. The Inspector explains that as there was not much discussion on these subjects and as more than one - subject was being discussed at the same time and by more than one person simultaneously, he could not take down clear notes of the same. All this indicates the urgent need for improving our reporting agency. A good steno-typist with high qualifications in both English and Kannada and with a fair knowledge of other languages has to be attached to each District Police -- office or in the alternative, Steno-typists with good English qualifications and one of the languages (Kannada, Urdu and -- Tamil) may be attached to the office of the Inspector General of Police, so that they could be requisitioned for service in the Districts whenever necessary.

Yours sincerely,



B. T. KESAVAIENGAR, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
B a n g a l o r e.

Submitted:-

I beg to report that as reported in my Weekly S.B. report for the week ending 7th January 1937, the subject matter that was expected to be discussed at the Conference as spoken to in the preliminary meeting held on 4th January 1937, was about merits and qualifications of the persons who stood for election to the Representative Assembly and Legislative Councils.

I therefore instructed the Police Inspector, Kolar Taluk to personally attend the conference and send a report of the proceedings. There is no short-hand ~~or~~ reporter attached to the District. The Inspector took the assistance of the Probationary Sub Inspector who is a graduate and attended the meetings on both the days and sent up reports.

His present report clearly explains the circumstances under which some omissions have crept in his report regarding the second days proceedings. On the whole I submit it fairly represents a correct version of the proceedings.

Sd. G. K. Madhava Rao,
District Superintendent of Police.
Kolar District.

9.2.1937

"Copy"



Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

Submitted:-

With reference to the confidential D.O. No: T.C.32/36-37 dated 2nd February 1937 from the Deputy Commissioner to the District Superintendent of Police, Kolar, calling for certain particulars regarding the report of the proceedings of the Mysore Peoples Federation, I beg to report that there is no short-hand reporter in this District nor a private person who could have taken notes in short-hand. So under instructions of the D.S.P. I personally attended the meeting along with the Prob. Sub Inspector, who is a Graduate, and got notes taken down for a report.

During the first day proceedings, I was present from start to finish and on the second day I attended the meeting till 10.30 A. M. when I had to leave the assembly urgently as a fatal motor lorry accident was reported on the Kolar Bangalore road. The Prob. Sub Inspector took down notes of the further proceedings that took place after I left the place. I may submit here, that it was expected that the meeting would come to a close shortly after. as all the resolutions were exhaustively discussed but they have taken up the last subject in a surprise most unexpectedly and at the instance of --- Mr. Venkatappa, Mr. Siddiah has opened this discussion.

Neither myself nor the Prob. S. Inspector knows shorthand. as such the summary of the points spoken to by the several speakers was taken down in long hand.

In this connection, I have read the proceedings of the Federation published in the vernacular news papers.

Thainadu of the 23rd and 25th January 1937,
Visvakarnataka of the 25th ~~and 26th~~ January 1937,
Janavani of the 25th and 26th January 1937,
The Hindu of the 25th January 1937.

Reporters of these papers were also taking notes probably in short-hand. Even there the speeches made by several people and the points mentioned by them are clubbed together and the statement made by one is attributed to the other. It will also be seen therefrom. that no two papers corroborate each other, on the details of the -- discussions. This clearly shows that they have given a colour and in some respects exaggerated and expressed things in their own phraseology though the speakers spoke colloquially. This is due, ~~as~~ I submit, to the fact that several speakers touched upon the same subject.

over again and more than one person stood up and began to talk on the same subject simultaneously. It is therefore possible that in that confusion and noise, some -- points which were not heard, might have escaped our notice.

In the above circumstances, I submit what we have reported is fairly a correct summary of the whole proceedings and discussions, as could be seen by comparing with the general points published in the above mentioned papers.

6-2-37.

Sd. S. Srinivas Gopal,
Police Inspector,
Kolar Taluk.

"Copy!"


Deputy Commissioner
Kolar District.

CONFIDENTIAL.

CB. 139.36.4

No. 204 of C.B. Dated 15-2-37

To

encs

The Inspector General of Police
in Mysore, Bangalore

Dear Sir,

In enclosing for your information a copy of my letter to the Deputy Commissioner Kolar and of his reply thereto, regarding the arrangements made for reporting the proceedings of the Mysore State Peoples Federation held at Kolar last month, I desired to state that Government will be glad to know what arrangements exist at present for ^{the} reporting ~~the~~ proceedings of important meetings etc.. in Bangalore as well as in the Districts. I am to invite reference in this connection to G.O. No.5042-5/Pol. 106-30-4 dated 17th February 1931 sanctioning (among other matters) a staff of steno-typists for the C.I.B., and to ~~enquire~~ ^{employ} whether the central C.I.B. Office do not make any ~~report~~ special arrangements for getting reliable reports of important meetings in the mofussil also.

*I am whether it would be
convenient to spare the
services of these stenotypists
on special occasions when
the D.C. or D.S.P. require them
in their respective Districts*

Yours sincerely,

M.S.
Chief Secretary.

2
15-2

CONFIDENTIAL.

15th February

7

No. 204 of C.B. 139. 36. 4
Encl

In enclosing for your information a copy of my letter to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar, and of his reply thereto regarding the arrangements made for reporting the proceedings of the Mysore State Peoples' Federation held at Kolar last month, I am desired to state that Government will be glad to know what arrangements exist at present for the reporting of proceedings of important meetings etc., in Bangalore as well as in the Districts. I am to invite reference in this connection to G.O.No.5042-5/Pol.106-30-4 dated 17th February 193 sanctioning (among other matters) a staff of steno-typists for the C.I.D.. and to enquire how these men are employed and whether the central C.I.D. Office do not make any special arrangements for getting reliable reports of important meetings in the mofussil and whether it would not be convenient to spare the services of these steno-typists on special occasions when the Deputy Commissioners or District Superintendents of Police require them to their respective districts.

Yours sincerely,
H

H. V. Ramasvami, Esqr.; M.A., B.L.,
Offg. Inspector General of Police in Mysore.

Copy of D.O. letter No.1881/C.B. dated 1st February 1937 from the Chief Secretary to Government, addressed to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

.

I am desired to acknowledge the receipt of your D.O. letter No. C.C.32/J.I.36-37 dated 26th January 1937 enclosing a summary of the Proceedings of the Second Mysore State Peoples Federation held at Kolar on the 23rd and 24th January 1937. Government, however, find that the accounts published in the newspapers regarding the discussions at the Conference vary in some respects from the summary sent by you and refer to matters that do not find a place in this summary. I am desired to request you to kindly state what arrangements had been made for getting a report of the proceedings and the manner in which they were taken down by the persons deputed, and how far the summary furnished represents a fairly correct version of the discussions at the Conference.

- - - - -

" C o p y "

For Chief Secretary to Govt.

Copy of confidential D.O.No.T.C.32/36-37 dated 9th February 1937 from the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, to the Chief Secretary to Govt.

. . . .

With reference to your confidential D.O. letter No.1881/C.B. dated 1st February 1937. I write to state that the Inspector of Police Kolar Taluk. had been deputed by the District Superintendent of Police, Kolar, to take down the notes of the proceedings of the Mysore State Peoples' Federation Conference. From the report of the Police Inspector, (herewith enclosed) it will be seen that he was present along with the Probationary Sub Inspector, who is a Graduate, on the first day of the Conference and on the second day till 10.30 a.m. He seems to have left the Conference hall on the second day at 10-30 a.m. as there was a fatal motor lorry accident on the Bangalore-Madras road, instructing the Probationary Sub Inspector to take down the notes till the close of the Session, which he expected to occur in a short time. But some subjects seem to have been sprung as a surprise at the last moment and the discussions continued till 2 p.m. There are no stenographers attached to the Police Department of this District and as ^{such} ~~much~~ no other arrangement could be made. So far as the summary of the proceedings taken down by the Police Officers goes, there is not much variation as compared with that published in the Hindu. The publication in the Kannada papers viz. Visvakarnataka and Janavani is no doubt very elaborate, but as there is difference in the wording of the speeches of the several speakers as published in these two papers it cannot be said that they represent correctly the actual speeches made by the several speakers. Some of the speeches are in high flown Kannada which is beyond the capacity of the speakers concerned. There is therefore reason to think that the speeches must have been edited and coloured by the reporters. Besides, the proceedings were all in Kannada and the rendering of the same into English depends on the capacity of each individual. his knowledge of English and Kannada and his capacity for translating

into English. as speeches proceed. Comparing the newspaper reports with the summary given by the Police, it is seen that two or three subjects do not find mention in the latter. The Inspector explains that as there was not much discussion on these subjects and as more than one subject was being discussed at the same time and by more than one person simultaneously, he could not take down clear notes of the same. All this indicates the urgent need for improving our reporting agency. A good steno-typist with high qualifications in both English and Kannada and with a fair knowledge of other languages has to be attached to each District Police office or in the alternative, Steno-typists with good English qualifications and one of the languages (Kannada, Urdu and Tamil) may be attached to the office of the Inspector General of Police, so that they could be requisitioned for service in the Districts whenever necessary.

" C o p y "

For Chief Secretary to Govt.

CONFIDENTIAL

D.O. No. S.B.190/54-35

CB 139 36.5

1556

504236
f 836

H. V. RAMASVAMI, Esq., M.A., B.L.,

Offg. Inspector-General of Police in Mysore.

BANGALORE,

26th February, 1937.

P20-11
MS
27/2
WQ

My dear Kesavaiengar,

With reference to your D.O. letter No. 2040/C.B.16-36 dated the 15th February 1937, I write to say that there are two Stenographers attached to the C.I.D. and another to the Bangalore City District Superintendent's Office. The City Stenographer attends meetings of importance in the City and takes down notes and whenever further assistance is needed, a Stenographer from the C.I.D. is also sent. Those in the C.I.D. are available for being sent to any place where their services may be needed. It is open to the District Magistrates or the District Superintendents of Police to ask for their services. As a matter of fact at the request of the District Superintendents of Police, they have been sent to the moffussil on several occasions. When they are not engaged on reporting work, these Stenographers attend to the office work in their respective offices.

In the particular instance under reference if either the District Magistrate or the District Superintendent of Police had only asked, the services of a Stenographer could have been easily placed at his disposal. Instructions will once again be issued to all District Superintendents of Police to freely avail themselves of the services of the Stenographers attached to the C.I.D. whenever necessary.

I think it is unnecessary at present to have a Stenographer in each District.

Yours sincerely,

LT? J. Ramaswami

B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.
Chief Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,
BANGALORE.

5th March

N^o 2281 / CP 139.36.6. 8th
Seeds. 1.

Dear Mr Appaji Gowda,

With reference to the correspondence ending with your D.O. letter No.T.C. 32 of 36-37 dated 9th February 1937, I am desirous to forward for your information a copy of letter No.S.B.190/34-35 dated 26th January 1937 received from the Inspector General of Police in the matter, which shows that there is already provision for stenographers being made available from the Central C.I.D. Office for reporting important meetings etc., in the Districts on requisition from the -- District Superintendents of Police concerned.

yours sincerely
M/S

J.Appaji Gowda, Esq., B.A. (Hons)
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

139.36.6

N^o 2281 / CB-8 ¹⁵ March 1937
Recd. 1.

Dear Mr. Appaji Gowda.

With reference to the correspondence ending with your D.O. letter No. T.C. 32 of 36-37 dated 9th February 1937, I am desirous to forward for your information a copy of letter No. S.B. 190/34-35 dated 26th January, 1937 received from the Inspector General of Police in the matter, which shows that there is already provision for stenographers being made available from the Central C.I.D. Office for reporting important meetings etc. in the Districts on requisition from the District Superintendents of Police concerned.

Yours sincerely,

MS
5/3

J. Appaji Gowda, Esq., B.A.,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.